

~~NOFORN NOCONTRACT~~

PAGE:0019

SSO KIRTLAND  
SSO TAC//INOS  
SSO MCCLELAN//USACMLS  
SSO SDC  
SSO 15 AF//INZEST/GENEVA//START  
SSO USAFE//KEEP AND PASS INOA  
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CINCLANTFLT VA  
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CMC//INTE  
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SSO NESEA//PASS TO NATC

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NST/GENEVA//DEFENSE AND SPACE SIR  
NST/GENEVA//SCC SIR  
NST/GENEVA//NTT SIR  
NST/GENEVA//CD SIR  
FICEURLANT//NORFOLK VA/25  
SSO NME//NAVAIRSYSCOM  
SSO NME//SSPO  
CIA//PASS TO CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS  
ZEM  
CONTROLS

QQQQ

SECTION 1 OF 6

BODY

SUBJECT: SCIENCE AND WEAPONS REVIEW CABLE,  
SW SWRC 28 SEPTEMBER 1990

X-----  
IRAQ: THE LASER HAZARD TO US FORCES IN THE PERSIAN  
GULF

RANGEFINDERS ON IRAQI TANKS POSE THE PRIMARY  
LASER EYE HAZARD TO US FORCES IN THE GULF; AIRBORNE  
LASER TARGET DESIGNATORS MAY ALSO BE A THREAT. FROM  
EVIDENCE PRESENTLY AVAILABLE, WE JUDGE IT UNLIKELY  
THAT IRAQ HAS FIELDDED A DEDICATED LASER BLINDING  
WEAPON.

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X-----  
1. IRAQ: THE LASER HAZARD TO US FORCES IN THE PERSIAN  
GULF [REDACTED]  
THE IRAQIS HAVE FIELDIED TANKS THAT INCORPORATE LASER  
RANGEFINDERS (LRFS). [REDACTED]

SEVERAL MODELS OF IRAQI AIRCRAFT INCORPORATE LASER TARGET  
DESIGNATORS (LTDS). [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
HAVE A GROUND-BASED LTD. [REDACTED]

THE IRAQIS ARE NOT KNOWN TO

COMMENT:

WE ASSESS THAT:

X -- THE PRIMARY EYE HAZARD FROM IRAQI FORCES EXISTS FROM  
THEIR TANK LRFS; AIRBORNE LTDS MAY ALSO POSE A THREAT. IN THE  
EVENT OF HOSTILITIES, US GROUND FORCES WILL BE THE MOST  
VULNERABLE. AIRCREWS OF HELICOPTERS ALSO MAY BE VULNERABLE IF  
IRAQI TANK CREWS USE LRFS TO ENGAGE THE HELICOPTERS WITH  
THEIR MAIN GUN, AS MANY ARMIES TRAIN TO DO. IT IS UNLIKELY  
THAT US SAILORS OR AIRCREWS OF HIGH-PERFORMANCE AIRCRAFT WILL  
BE EXPOSED TO HAZARDOUS LEVELS OF LASER RADIATION FROM IRAQI  
LRFS OR LTDS.

ADMIN

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SECTION 2 OF 6  
[REDACTED]

BODY

SUBJECT: SCIENCE AND WEAPONS REVIEW CABLE,  
SW SWRC [REDACTED] 28 SEPTEMBER 1990

X -- IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE IRAQIS HAVE ACQUIRED OR  
DEVELOPED A DEDICATED LASER BLINDING WEAPON. [REDACTED]

THE EYE HAZARD FROM IRAQI LRFS

IRAQI TANK LRFS MAY PRESENT AN EYE HAZARD TO UNPROTECTED US


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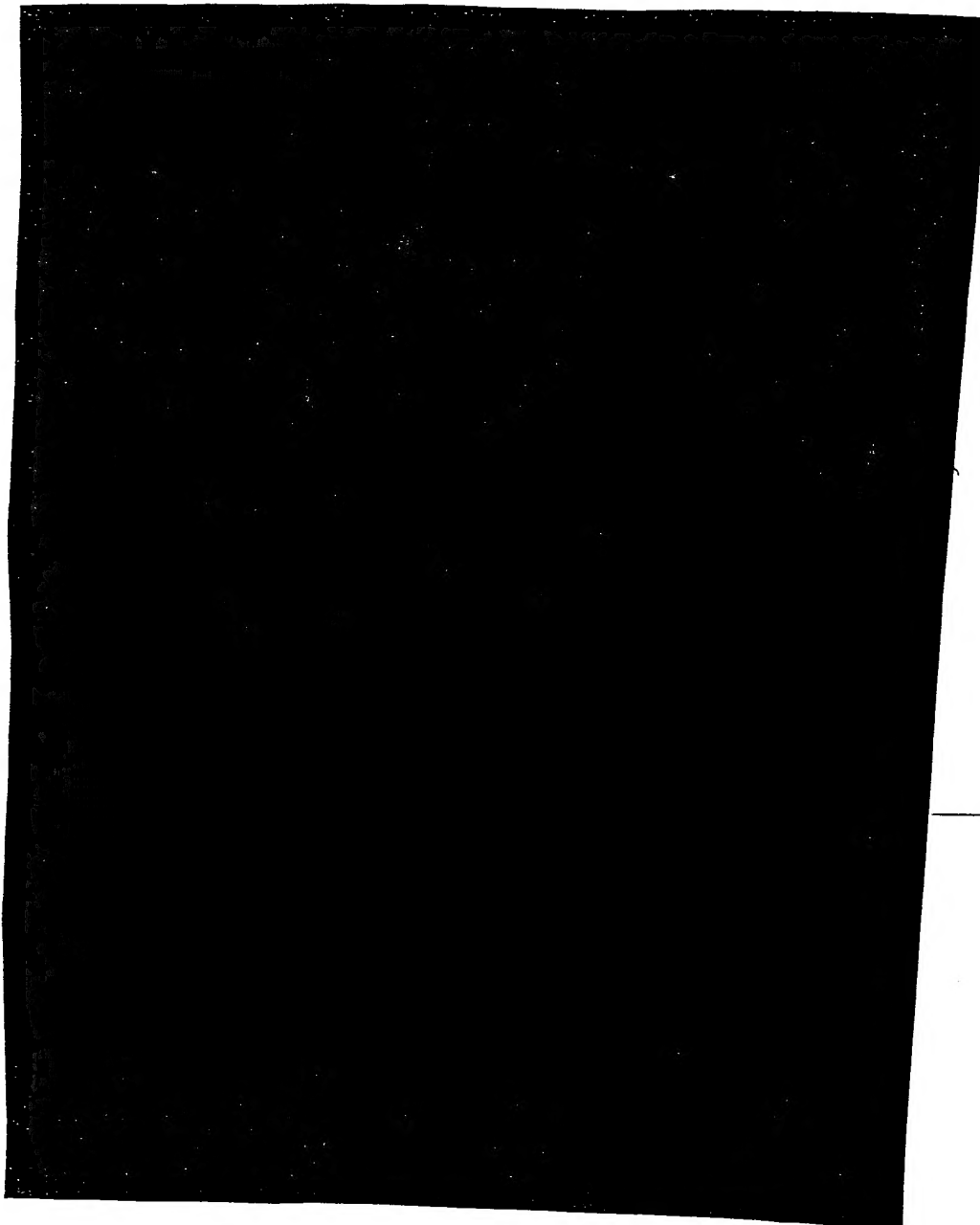
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SOLDIERS, ESPECIALLY IF THEY ARE LOOKING THROUGH A MAGNIFYING OPTIC SUCH AS M-19 7-POWER BINOCULARS. SINCE MOST IRAQI GROUND-BASED LRFS ARE INCORPORATED INTO TANKS, THE MOST LIKELY TARGETS TO BE IRRADIATED IN BATTLE WILL BE US ARMOR AND INFANTRY. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT FIXED-WING, HIGH-PERFORMANCE US AIRCRAFT WILL BE IRRADIATED BY THESE TANK LRFS. 



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SECTION 3 OF 6  
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BODY

SUBJECT: SCIENCE AND WEAPONS REVIEW CABLE,  
SW SWRC ~~TOP SECRET~~ 28 SEPTEMBER 1990

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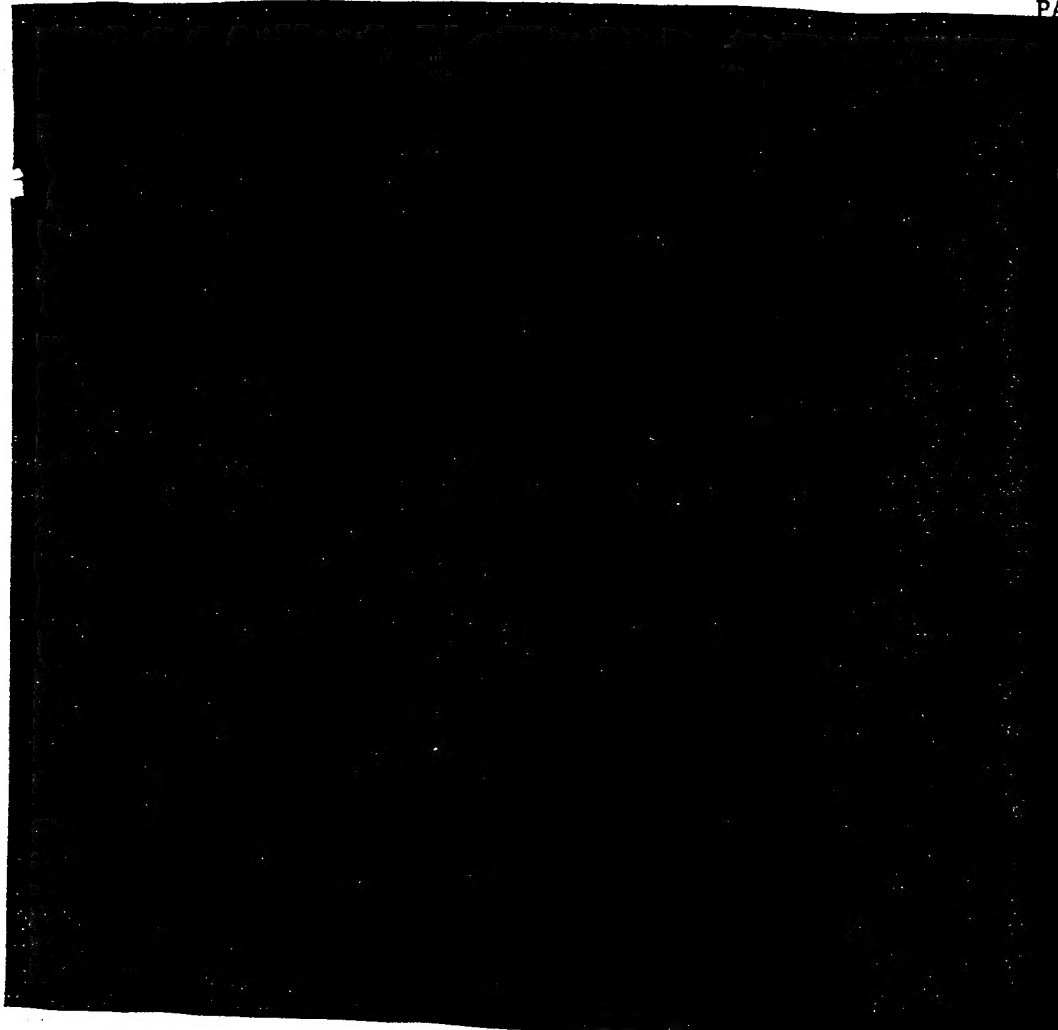
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THE EYE HAZARD FROM IRAQI LTDS-1-

 BECAUSE OF THE EMPLOYMENT DOCTRINE WE WOULD EXPECT FOR THE LTDS IN THE IRAQI INVENTORY, WE ASSESS THAT THEY PROBABLY WILL NOT PRESENT A SIGNIFICANT EYE HAZARD TO US FORCES:

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SECTION 4 OF 6  
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BODY

SUBJECT: SCIENCE AND WEAPONS REVIEW CABLE,  
SW SWRC ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ 28 SEPTEMBER 1990

X-1- THE EYE HAZARDS DESCRIBED IN THIS ARTICLE ARE BASED ON  
EXPOSURE TO A SINGLE LASER PULSE.  
~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

X -- MANY OF THE TARGETS FOR IRAQI LASER-GUIDED MUNITIONS  
(LGMS) WILL BE OF HIGH VALUE AND LARGE--SUCH AS BRIDGES OR  
SURFACE SHIPS--SO THAT THE LIKELIHOOD OF IRRADIATING A PERSON  
IS LOW.

X -- THE LTDS WILL BE AIMED AT GROUND OR SEA TARGETS ONLY.

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SECTION 5 OF 6

BODY

SUBJECT: SCIENCE AND WEAPONS REVIEW CABLE,  
SW SWR [REDACTED] 28 SEPTEMBER 1990

[REDACTED] AND WE ARE  
SOMEWHAT SKEPTICAL THAT A SCIENTIFIC/COMERCIAL LASER CAN BE  
EASILY WEAPONIZED AND FIELDIED AND COULD HAVE CAUSED THE  
REPORTED THOUSANDS OF IRANIAN EYE CASUALTIES. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

THUS, THOUGH IT IS  
POSSIBLE THAT THE IRAQIS MAY HAVE DEVELOPED OR MODIFIED A  
LASER FOR USE AS A BLINDING WEAPON, THE [REDACTED] EVIDENCE  
AT THIS TIME PREVENTS US FROM PROJECTING THAT THE IRAQIS HAVE  
FIELDED A DEDICATED LASER BLINDING WEAPON. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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